

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The following addresses the Examiner's rejection of the claims based on cited prior art.

The Examiner rejected claim 11 as being obvious over Vallone et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,642,939 and Peterson et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,652,714. Vallone et al. teach the use of a remote control of Fig. 14 for navigating a displayed list upwards and downwards and the generation of transitional sounds in response to a user navigating the interface with the remote control. Peterson et al. teach assigning sounds to "next state" and "previous state" tools, wherein the same sound can be assigned to all "next state" or "previous state" tools. However, neither Vallone et al. nor Peterson et al. teach that the frequency range of the first aural signal is dependent on the size of the data set comprising the hierarchical data structure. Similarly, McKiel merely discloses a fixed set of tones for the vertical position and a pair of stereo sounds when past the ends of the horizontal position. Furthermore, it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill to associate the frequency range of the aural to the size of the data set comprising a hierarchical data structure based on the teachings of Vallone et al. and Peterson et al.

The Examiner rejected claim 21 as being obvious over Vallone et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,642,939 and Peterson et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,652,714. Vallone et al. teach the use of a remote control of Fig. 14 for navigating a displayed list upwards and downwards and the generation of transitional sounds in response to a user navigating the interface with the remote control. Peterson et al. teach assigning sounds to "next state" and "previous state" tools, wherein the same sound can be assigned to all "next state" or "previous state" tools. However, neither Vallone et al. nor Peterson et al. teach that the frequency range of the first aural signal is dependent on the size of the data set comprising the level or a sublevel. Similarly, McKiel merely discloses a fixed set of tones for the vertical position and a pair of stereo sounds when past the ends of the horizontal position. Furthermore, it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill to associate the frequency range of the aural to the size of the data set comprising a level or sublevel based on the teachings of Vallone et al. and Peterson et al.

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Claims 12-19 and 21-30 depend from their respective independent claim and are patentable for the same reasons.

Applicant submits that no fees are required for entry of this Amendment. If it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 03-1550.

Respectfully submitted,

CHERNOFF, VILHAUER, McCLUNG & STENZEL

Dated: April 20, 2006

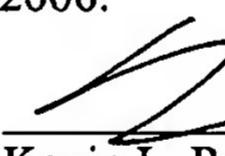
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 20, 2006.

Dated: April 20, 2006


Kevin L. Russell